

CLAIMS

1. A security font method for generating traceable pages in an electronic document, the method comprising:
 - accepting an electronic document;
 - 5 modifying font print instructions associated with selected characters in the document; and,
 - transmitting the document with the modified font print instructions to a destination.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - printing the document with the modified font print instructions.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2 further comprising:
 - saving a record of the modified font print instructions.
- 20 4. The method of claim 3 wherein modifying font print instructions associated with selected characters in the document includes clandestinely modifying the font printing instructions for the selected characters.
- 25 5. The method of claim 4 wherein printing the document with the modified font print instructions includes creating a printed copy of the modified document identical to a printed copy of the document with no modified font print instructions.

6. The method of claim 5 further comprising:
receiving an alleged copy of the electronic document with the
modified font print instructions;
comparing the modified font print instructions in the
5 received document to the record;
in response to comparing, verifying the existence of the
selected (modified) characters in the received document; and,
in response to verifying the existence of the selected
characters, determining that the received document matches the
10 transmitted document.

7. The method of 5 wherein accepting an electronic
document includes accepting an electronic document with a first character
formatted in a first font; and,
15 wherein clandestinely modifying the selected characters
includes changing the number of first font printable pixels associated with
the first character.

8. The method of 5 wherein accepting an electronic
20 document includes accepting an electronic document with a first character
formatted in a first font; and,
wherein clandestinely modifying the selected characters
includes changing the position of first font printable pixels associated with
the first character.

9. The method of 5 wherein accepting an electronic document includes accepting an electronic document with a first character formatted in a first font; and,

wherein clandestinely modifying the selected characters

- 5 includes changing the kerning of first font printable pixels associated with the first character.

10. The method of 5 wherein accepting an electronic document includes accepting an electronic document with a first character 10 and a second character formatted in a first font; and,

wherein clandestinely modifying the selected characters includes changing the spacing between the first font printable pixels associated with the first and second characters.

15 11. The method of claim 5 wherein modifying font print instructions associated with selected characters in the document includes randomly modifying selected characters.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein randomly modifying 20 selected characters includes generating a different modification for each transmitted document; and,

wherein saving a record of the modified font print instructions includes saving a record of each transmitted document modification.

13. The method of claim 5 wherein modifying font print instructions associated with selected characters in the document includes modifying randomly selected characters.

5 14. The method of claim 5 wherein accepting an electronic document includes accepting the document in a microprocessor-driven client machine enabling a print driver security application;

 wherein modifying font print instructions associated with selected characters in the document includes using the print driver
10 security application to generate the modifications; and,
 wherein saving a record of the modified print instructions includes the print driver security application saving a record in a memory accessible by the client machine.

15 15. The method of claim 14 further comprising:
 receiving an alleged copy of the electronic document with the modified font print instructions; and,

 wherein comparing the modified font print instructions in the received document to the record includes the print driver security
20 application comparing the received document print commands to the print commands stored in memory.

16. The method of claim 5 wherein accepting an electronic document includes accepting the document in a printer enabled with a
25 font security application;

wherein modifying font print instructions associated with selected characters in the document includes using the font security application to generate the modifications; and,

wherein saving a record of the modified print instructions

- 5 includes the font security application saving a record in a memory accessible by the micro-processor driven client machine.

17. The method of claim 16 further comprising:

- receiving an alleged copy of the electronic document with the
- 10 modified font print instructions;

wherein comparing the modified print instructions in the received document to the record includes a print driver security application, enabled on a client machine, comparing the received document print commands to the print commands stored in memory.

15

18. The method of claim 2 wherein printing the document with the modified print instructions includes creating a printed copy of the modified document perceptively different from a printed copy of the document with no modified print instructions.

20

19. The method of claim 1 wherein modifying font print instructions associated with selected characters in the document includes:
 - saving a first predetermined modification in memory; and,
 - in response to accepting a first electronic document,
- 25 accessing the first modification from memory; and,

using the first modification to modify font print instructions associated with the first document.

20. The method of claim 5 wherein accepting an electronic
5 document includes accepting the document in a printer enabled with a font security application; and,

wherein saving a record of the modified font print instructions includes saving a record of each printed document modification in a printer memory.

10

21. A security font system for generating traceable pages in an electronic document, the system comprising:

a microprocessor driven client machine including:

a memory; and,

15

a print driver security application residing in the memory, the print driver security application having an interface to accept an electronic document and an interface to supply the electronic document with modified font print instructions associated with selected characters.

20

22. The system of claim 21 further comprising:

a printer having an interface connected to the print driver security application to accept the modified electronic document and an interface to supply a printed copy of the modified electronic document.

25

23. The system of claim 22 wherein the print driver security application saves a record of the modified print instruction in the memory.

5 24. The system of claim 23 wherein the print driver security application clandestinely modifies the printing instructions for the selected characters.

10 25. The system of claim 24 wherein the printer creates a printed copy of the modified document identical to a printed copy of the document with no modified print instructions.

15 26. The system of claim 25 wherein the print driver security application has an interface to receive an alleged copy of the electronic document with modified print instructions, the print driver security application comparing the modified print instructions in the received document to the record retrieved from the memory, verifying the existence of the selected (modified) characters in the received document, and so determining the authenticity of the received document.

20

27. The system of claim 25 wherein the print driver security application accepts an electronic document with a first character formatted in a first font and generates print instruction to change the number of first font printable pixels associated with the first character.

25

28. The system of claim 25 wherein the print driver security application accepts an electronic document with a first character formatted in a first font and generates print instruction to change the position of first font printable pixels associated with the first character.

5

29. The system of claim 25 wherein the print driver security application accepts an electronic document with a first character formatted in a first font and generates print instruction to change the kerning of first font printable pixels associated with the first character.

10

30. The system of claim 25 wherein the print driver security application accepts an electronic document with first and second characters formatted in a first font and generates print instruction to change the spacing of first font printable pixels associated with the first
15 and second characters.

31. The system of claim 25 wherein the print driver security application randomly modifies selected characters.

20

32. The system of claim 25 wherein the print driver security application randomly selects characters for modification.

33. The system of claim 32 wherein the print driver security application generates a different modification for each
25 transmitted document and saves a record of each transmitted document modification in memory.

34. The system of claim 22 wherein the printer creates a printed copy of the modified document perceptively different from a printed copy of the document with no modified print instructions.

5

35. The system of claim 22 wherein the printer includes a memory for logging a record of modified print instructions.

36. A security font system for generating traceable pages
10 in an electronic document, the system comprising:

a microprocessor-driven printer including:

a memory; and,

15 a font security application residing in the memory, the font security application having an interface to accept an electronic document and an interface to supply the electronic document with modified font print instructions associated with selected characters.

37. The system of claim 36 wherein the printer has an
20 interface to supply a printed copy of the modified electronic document.

38. The system of claim 37 further comprising:

a microprocessor-driven client machine having a memory;

and,

25 wherein the font security application saves a record of the modified print instruction in the client machine memory.

39. The system of claim 38 wherein the font security application clandestinely modifies the printing instructions for the selected characters.

5

40. The system of claim 39 wherein the printer creates a printed copy of the modified document identical to a printed copy of the document with no modified print instructions.

10

41. The system of claim 40 wherein the client machine further includes a print driver security application with an interface to receive an alleged copy of the electronic document with modified print instructions, the print driver security application comparing the modified print instructions in the received document to the record retrieved from the memory, verifying the existence of the selected (modified) characters in the received document, and so determining the authenticity of the received document.

15

42. The system of claim 40 wherein the font security application accepts an electronic document with a first character formatted in a first font and generates print instruction to change the number of first font printable pixels associated with the first character.

20

43. The system of claim 40 wherein the font security application accepts an electronic document with a first character

25

formatted in a first font and generates print instruction to change the position of first font printable pixels associated with the first character.

44. The system of claim 40 wherein the font security
5 application accepts an electronic document with a first character
formatted in a first font and generates print instruction to change the kerning of first font printable pixels associated with the first character.

45. The system of claim 40 wherein the font security
10 application accepts an electronic document with first and second
characters formatted in a first font and generates print instruction to
change the spacing of first font printable pixels associated with the first
and second characters.

15 46. The system of claim 40 wherein the font security
application randomly modifies selected characters.

47. The system of claim 40 wherein the print driver
security application randomly selects characters for modification.

20 48. The system of claim 37 wherein the printer creates a
printed copy of the modified document perceptively different from a
printed copy of the document with no modified print instructions.

25 49. The system of claim 36 wherein the printer memory
logs a record of modified print instructions.